

REMARKS

As an initial matter, in reviewing the application, a number of typographical and grammatical errors were noted in the specification. To correct these errors, paragraphs 15-17 are amended herein. No new matter is added by these non-substantive amendment.

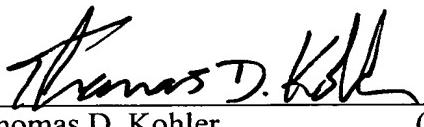
Claims 1-3 are pending in the application. In the office action dated November 2, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3. In the present amendment, minor changes are made to claim 1 in order to improve the grammar and clarity. No new limitations are added and these changes are not made for reasons related to patentability. New claims 4-7 are also added herein. No new matter was added.

The Examiner's rejection under 35 USC 102 over Kritzler is respectfully traversed. In the Kritzler device, the center of rotation of the handle 2 lies at pivot point 5 as pointed out by the Examiner. However, this location does not meet the language of claim 1 or new claim 4. Claim 1 recites the pivoting portion as "functioning as a rotating center of the door handle" and claim 4 recites that the "pivoting portion is configured and dimensioned as a rotating center of the door handle." As described in the instant specification at least at paragraphs 15 and 22, it is the pivoting portion 21 itself that functions as the rotating center. Referring to FIG. 3, it can be seen that rotating center lies approximately at the center of the rounded protrusion of the pivoting portion 21 that bears against the inner wall of the handle rotating space 11 of the handle base 10. Thus the rotating center is located on the pivoting portion 21 such that the pivoting portion functions as the rotating center. In contrast, in Kritzler it is not the pivot fork 6 (i.e. the alleged pivoting portion) that functions as the rotating center, but rather the separate "pivot pin or bar 5." For these reasons, claims 1 and 4 and the claims dependent thereon are not anticipated by the cited references.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application as a whole is in form for allowance. Should the Examiner have any continuing objections, the Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to contact the undersigned at 415-442-1106 in order to expedite allowance of the case. Authorization is granted to charge any outstanding fees due at this time for the continued prosecution of this matter to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP Deposit Account No. 50-0310 (matter no. 060945-0136).

Respectfully submitted,

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 32,797
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